

Focus on Fifth

Weekly News for Holmes Fifth-Grade Families

News and Events in the 5th Grade

March 11, 2013

www.op97.org

Important Dates

March 11-15	P.A.C.K. Week
March 12	Common Core Forum at Brooks
March 19	Science Fair
March 21	International Baccalaureate presentation at Brooks
March 22	Student-Staff Basketball Game (Guilder Activity)
Mar 25 - Mar 29	Spring Break

Dear Families,

It may seem like a long way away, but the Rockin' Lock In will be here before you know it! If you have not done so already, please send in the permission slip and \$10 with your child this week and let us know when your preferred shift times are by clicking [here](#). Please note that in order to participate in this activity and the many other activities we will have between now and the end of the school year (like the student-staff basketball game), students are expected to be respectful, responsible, and powerful through peace. They can do this by following directions, completing all assignments, keeping their hands to themselves at all times. Failure to do these things will result in the loss of the privilege to participate.

The Lemonade Wars for the week of 3/11 (Chapters 4-6)

In our reading this week, "The Lemonade War" between Jessie and Evan has officially begun! Why do you think they started this war, and what are they hoping will happen if they win? We have learned some interesting things about Evan and Jessie's strengths and weaknesses. Jessie is "math-smart" and Evan is "people-smart." How do you think their strengths and weaknesses will affect their lemonade sales? Are you the same kind of smart as Jessie or as Evan? Or are you a different kind of smart? What other kinds of "smarts" are there?

Spring Food and Fund Drive

Holmes School Student Council will be sponsoring a food and fund drive to support the Oak Park and River Forest Food Pantry. Students can bring in food and monetary donation through Tuesday, April 23rd. We hope everyone participates!

P.A.C.K Week (March 11 - 15)

Monday, March 11th: Pack Green Day

Green grapes, celery sticks, green pepper, snow peas, sugar snap peas or broccoli florets

Tuesday, March 12th: Pack White Day

White, tan and brown fruits and veggies make up this color category.

bananas, white peach, pear, cauliflower florets

Wednesday, March 13th: Pack Yellow/Orange Day

orange, baby carrots, nectarines, peaches or pineapple chunks, dried apricots.

Thursday, March 14th: Pack Purple Day

Did you know that only 3% of fruit and veggie consumption is from the purple/blue category?

Yet, these fruits and veggies provide natural plant nutrients not found in other colors.

Raisins, plums, blueberries, blackberries

Friday, March 15th: Pack Red Day

Red fruits and vegetables are a cheery addition to the lunchbox.

Red apples, cherries, strawberries, red pepper slices, tomato wedges

SPECIAL AREA SUBJECTS

Art - 5th graders are sculpting the United States president they researched in Social Studies class.

We will be working in clay and studying proportions found in presidential portraits. Our presidents will be three-dimensional and feature details from head to toe. Stay tuned into

[www.http://owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com](http://owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com) for pictures of works in progress.

Music - [Check out the website!](#) We are continuing our big Theme and Variations project this week.

Students will learn to play the theme of the assignment on the recorder and then create their own variations by changing different musical aspects of the piece. Each student will have their own packet for this assignment. They will work on making one variation by themselves. I will make suggestions on this variation by Wednesday and then allow them to work with me on Friday at 11:30 to improve their assignment. They may also take the assignment home to make corrections and bring it back by Friday. More details about the whole assignment will be available on the music website this week.

Chorus - The Wolves game is Sunday March 17th! Details will be sent home this week about where we are meeting and at what time. If you can give a ride, please email akaria@op97.org. We will be singing "Don't Stop Believing" at the game.

Click here for the karaoke track:

[Don't Stop Believing Audio](#)

And here for the lyrics"

[Don't Stop Lyrics](#)

Spanish - Students will continue to work with the new story about a bombero, Juan. Students can read the story for 10 puntos on the website at : <http://www.mpoleski.blogspot.com/>

Library - Reading Olympians! The Holmes School competition is this Wednesday, March 13 at 12:30. Visitors are welcome. The district competition will be next Tuesday, March 19 at River Forest Public Library at noon. In other library news, the entire fifth grade has been reading RJ Palacio's *Wonder* during library time. Take a look at the Wonder website for information about this amazing novel,

<http://choosekind.tumblr.com/> For more on library happenings, please keep up with us on the library home page (<http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/>).

Physical Education - Please see Mr. Williams' link (www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com) for information.

Reading/Literature

We are so close to finishing *Johnny Tremain* by Esther Forbes! The students are very excited to find out what will happen to Johnny and the other characters as the American Revolution is underway. We will also be using different texts from Unit 5 of Treasures to help practice quoting accurately to explain what the text means and to describe how a story is affected by the point of view from which it is being told.

Language Arts

This week in language arts, we will teach lessons on keyboarding/computer skills, as well as give students time to practice their typing in class.

Math

This week, we will continue to work on the concept of volume. We will begin by determining the relationship between the volume of prisms and pyramids and cylinders and cones. We will then move on to capacity, weight and surface area.

Science

Last week, students were given time to type text to be included on their science fair posters. These posters must be assembled at home. This week, students will write a presentation to accompany their posters and will practice the oral presentation. Posters are due Monday, March 18 and the fair will be held Tuesday, March 19. Please make plans to join us in the multipurpose room that evening.

Social Studies

This week we wrap up our discussion of the causes of the American Revolution. Each group will present what they learned from the project to their classmates. We will continue the week with a lesson on the definition of and types of taxes, what they are used for, as well as, the concept of "taxation without representation". We will end the week with a closer look at the Boston Massacre.

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

We're on the Web!

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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